[Mr. N. Padmanabha Pillai.]

(*b*) What portion, if any, of these articles is directly delivered at the Travancore Ports?

(*c*) In case these articles are imported through British India, do the Government pay for their import duties there? What is the amount so paid annually?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*) The value of goods imported from outside India for the use of the several departments in 1097 was Rs. 2,68,531-12-0.

(*b*) All the goods imported from foreign countries are shipped to Alleppey, either direct or by transhipment at Colombo or Bombay, to coasting steamers for Alleppey.

(*c*) Till now no duty has been paid. For the future, intimation has been received that duty will be levied on goods imported through the British Indian Ports, and consequently arrangements are being made for the delivery of the articles at Alleppey itself.

Effect of Enhanced Anchal Rates.

201. MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to give detailed information regarding the effect of the recently increased Anchal rates on the number of letters and Anchal cards posted?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: A statement* giving the information required by the member is laid on the table.

Women in Police Custody.

MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to state the number of cases of assaults on, or other improper behaviour to, women in police custody by Police officers, during the last ten years?

(*b*) How were these cases dealt with?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to make proper arrangements for the protection of women in custody?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: (*a*) One.

(*b*) The offender who was a constable was dismissed the Force.

(*c*) Answers to (*a*) & (*b*) do not show that the existing arrangements are unsatisfactory.

Communications in the Karunagapalli Taluk.

202. MR. N. PADMANABHA PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to furnish a statement showing:

(i) the annual revenue,

(ii) the annual expenditure on means of communication, and

(iii) the population,

of the Karunagapalli taluk?

Vide Appendix I—page 751.

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(*b*) Are they aware of the want of proper means of communication from the lakes bordering that taluk to the interior parts and also of the consequent difficulty experienced by cultivators in the matter of transporting manures, etc., for use in those parts?

(*c*) Will the Government be pleased to provide more and better means of communication for that taluk?

MR. R. KRISHNA PILLAI: (*a*) (i) It is not possible to furnish information regarding the revenue of the taluk from the several sources, as accounts of revenue for the several departments are not kept taluk-war. The land revenue of the taluk for 1097 was Rs. 1,48,736-Chs. 22 -C. 15.

(ii) As expenditure is not accounted for by taluks, it is not possible to furnish accurate information. The annual expenditure on communications in the taluk is, however, roughly calculated by the Chief Engineer to be Rs. 12,375, exclusive of expenditure on original works.

(iii) The population of the taluk, inclusive of the town of Kayankulam, is 1,58,058.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Karunagapalli is a taluk where road-making is difficult and costly. The matter is, however, receiving every possible attention.

Appointment of Sub-Inspectors in the Excise Department.

203. MR. M. N. PILLAI: (*a*) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table a statement showing in detail the qualification, service and previous pay of all the persons who have been appointed as Sub-Inspectors under the recent reorganisation of the Excise Department?

(*b*) Is it a fact that acting clerks without sufficient qualification and getting only Rs. 15 and Petty Officers on Rs. 20 have been promoted as Sub-Inspectors under the reorganisation, overlooking the claims of other subordinates of longer service and higher pay?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR: (*a*) The statement* asked for by the member is laid on the table. Appointments above Rs. 40 per mensem have received the sanction of Government. Those below are being scrutinised, so as to ascertain whether they are in order.

(*b*) Three acting clerks who are English School Leaving Certificate holders (two on Rs. 20 and one on Rs. 15) and 7 Petty Officers on Rs. 20 have been promoted as Sub-Inspectors on the ground of ability and fitness for executive work.

Civil Suits against Government on the file of the District Court, Kottayam.

204. MR. P. K. NARAYANA PILLAI: (i) Will the Government be pleased to make a statement with regard to—

* *Vide* Appendix II – pages 752 to 755.

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